



**BP America Inc.**  
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**BP AMERICA**

BP AMERICA COMMENTS  
ON SPONSORSHIP OF TOMB SCULPTURE OF ANCIENT CHINA

January 12, 1988

BP America's sponsorship of the Cleveland showing of "Tomb Sculpture of Ancient China: The Quest for Eternity," reflects its commitment to Cleveland and its dedication to strengthening its longstanding business relationship with the People's Republic of China.

Robert B. Horton, chief executive officer of BP America, commented on the company's grant to support the exhibition saying, "We are pleased to sponsor such a significant showing of Chinese ceramic sculpture in Cleveland. Our support of this exhibit demonstrates our continued commitment to an active business relationship with the People's Republic of China; a commitment initiated years ago by The Standard Oil Company. We believe that this exhibition will enhance understanding and knowledge of the Chinese culture."

BP America is recognized as a pioneer in the establishment of business interests with the People's Republic of China. The Standard Oil Company, now a part of BP America, was one of the first United States companies to resume friendly relations with China, licensing its world famous acrylonitrile technology to the China National Technical Import Corporation in 1973. Acrylonitrile is a versatile chemical used in synthetic fibers for clothing, carpeting, and blankets, and in certain plastics for telephone casings, appliance housings, and automobile components.

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Today, BP America continues to build its business ties with China, having licensed five additional facilities for the production of acrylonitrile. The company believes its commitment to China will provide a foundation on which to build successful and mutually beneficial business relationships in the future.

BP America takes special pride in its reputation as a leading corporate citizen, not only in Cleveland, but in all cities where it has a business presence. Sponsorship of programs which promote understanding of the Arts, such as "Tomb Sculpture of Ancient China," reflect the company's interest in improving the quality of life for Cleveland's citizens.

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